SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
File No. REGISTRY.
No. D 6204
Station, 34

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Section 2, Special Branch.

REPORT

Date November 5, 1934

Subject (in full): Woldemar B. Novak and correspondence in N.C.D.News signed "The Nervous Wreck."

Made by D.I. Everest Forwarded by D B Lee S.I.

Enquiries regarding W.B. Novak mentioned in the attached file on the subject of a letter published in the North China Daily News of October 21, 1934, have elicited the following information:-

Woldemar Borisovitch Novak, Russian, Born in Vladivostok on December 17, 1909, was educated at the St. Francis Xavier's College, Shanghai, and the St. Louis' College, Tientsin. During April 1931 he obtained employment with the China Realty Company and remained with this firm until February 12, 1934, when it was discovered that he had embezzled $1868.00 which had come into his possession as clerk of the rent department. Although Novak refunded the money he was charged and appeared before the S.S.D. Court on February 17, 1934, when he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment suspended for two years (Ref. Central F.I.R. 234/34).

On October 1, 1934, Novak rented office No.316, 650 Szechuen Road, and commenced business as a general commission agent under the title "Decorum Commercial Office." In connection with this business he undertook the selling, leasing or decorating of property. This attempt to set up in business for himself was cut short on October 19 when he was arrested by the Municipal Police at the request of the Chinese Authorities on a charge of extortion. He appeared before Court on October 20 and was ordered to be handed over the Shanghai Bureau of Public Safety. (Ref. Hongkew Misc. File No.514/34.)

D. B. Everest
D. I.

SPECIAL BRANCH
NOV 6 1934

D.C. (Br.)
Information.

Deputy Commissioner.
(CRIME)
Special Branch.

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File No.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Section 2, Special Branch,

REPORT

Date October 31, 1934.

Subject (in full) Correspondence in North China Daily News signed "The Nervous Wreck."

Made by D.I. Everest *Forwarded by* D.B. Rice D.C.

With reference to the attached file regarding a letter published in the North China Daily News of October 22 over the pseudonym "The Nervous Wreck" which was ascertained to have been written by Mr. Carl H. Jorgensen of 404 Avenue Joffre, it will be recalled that this information was passed to the French Police on October 24 with a request that we be informed of any developments in the case. Information was received from D.S.I. Creston of the Crime Branch, French Police, on October 30 to the effect that he had interviewed Mr. Jorgensen who stated he had no information to offer other than as stated in his letter in the North China Daily News except that the address of the Russian concern was 650 Szechuen Road, office No. 316.

Discreet enquiries disclose that office No. 316, 650 Szechuen Road, is occupied by the Decorum Commercial Office, General Contractors, and that this business is owned by a Russian named Woldeman B. Novak.

D. I.

S2, Further enquiry and report early please.

Deputy Commissioner,
Special Branch.

DC (Sp Br) continue with CS2 and see what enquiries can be made

P.A. (Sp. Br.) for information.

D.I. Everest

NOV. 1 1934

FRENCH CONCESSION POLICE (CRIME BRANCH)

Form No. 3
C. Supp-1-34

File No. S.B.R.C.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Section 2, Special Branch

FURTHER **REPORT**

Date October 25, 1934.

Subject (in full) Correspondence in North China Daily News signed "The Nervous Wreck."

Made by D.I. Everest *Forwarded by* D.B. Kerr D.I.

In accordance with the instructions contained in the endorsement of the Officer i/c Special Branch on the attached report, a copy of the letter signed "The Nervous Wreck" published in the correspondence columns of the North China Daily News on October 22 was handed to Mr. Sarly of the French Police on the afternoon of October 24. Mr. Sarly stated he will send one of his staff to interview the writer of the letter and will inform the Officer i/c Special Branch of the result.

D.B. Everest
D. I.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

PA (CB)
Information
JB

Thank you
Rudd 25

Form No. 3
C. 25004-34

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Section 2, Special Br.

REPORT

File No. D 6204
SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY.
Station

Date October 22, 1934.

Subject (in full) Correspondence in North China Daily News signed "Nervous Wreck."

Made by D.I. Everest *Forwarded by* J.B. Kerr D.I.

With reference to the letter signed "The Nervous Wreck" in the correspondence column of the North China Daily News, issue dated October 22, I have ascertained that the name and address of the correspondent is as follows:-

Mr. Carl H. Jorgensen, Accountant, 404 Avenue Joffre, Apt. 1.

Owing to the fact this gentleman resides in the French Concession he will not be approached pending receipt of further instructions.

B.B. Everest
D. I.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

S2
Bring to notice of French Police & Report record
JB

SHANGHAI "ENTERPRISE"

A Curious Interview

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I take the liberty in requesting space enough to voice my disgust with a certain institution, flourishing in Shanghai at the present time. Their business is run on the principle, that Barnum was right: "A sucker is born every minute." But let me state my experience.

A few days ago I received a letter in Russian (a language I only master to a certain degree) from a (as the letterhead showed) interior decorator. They thanked me for my letter, and in regard to my apartment would I please call at once at their office. Was I surprised? You bet! for I was quite certain that I had written no letter and did not want any interior decorating done. Being of an inquisitive nature, I went. In a singular little office I was met by an elderly gentleman, who explained that his business was "house-selling" and not interior decorating, that he had seen an advertisement of mine in a local Russian morning-paper, in which he saw that I was looking for a buyer for my house. Well, he had a purchaser, how much did I want, now many rooms, 7½ per cent., commission, etc. etc., and so on for more than half an hour—and then came the "catch" in the whole business: "$2.00 registration fee."

But Barnum was for once wrong! From something this enterprising gentleman said during our interview, I know for certain that, far from having a buyer for my house, the first time the business of selling my house entered his mind, was when I entered his office (and it's a question if he thought of if even then); also the absence of any reference to interior decoration made me wonder.

If this letter could make the right authorities wonder also, half its purpose would be fulfilled, the other half being for those authorities to step in and do something about this "easy-money" concern, whose name and address I am willing to furnish to the right parties upon request.

THE NERVOUS WRECK.

Shanghai, Oct. 19.

S 2

Who is the writer & what is ~~[illegible]~~ the certain institution

HR